

Annual Report by J. T. Murphy, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health.

75, London Road,  
Kettering.

October, 1941.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report on the health of Burton Latimer for 1940.

As instructed in Ministry of Health circular 2067 the report is abridged and confined to essential matters only. A full report will be made covering the war period from the beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year. In spite of the many extra duties imposed on the staff by war conditions I am pleased to report that the health and sanitary conditions of the District have maintained peace time standards.

Dr. Thomas O. Garland, your former Medical Officer of Health resigned during the year and I commenced duty on December 1st.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and help. I also wish to express my appreciation to the Council staff for the kind help I received on taking up the appointment.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. MURPHY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics.

Area (acres) ...	2,756
Population (Registrar-General's estimate) ...	3,753
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940 according to Rate Books) ...	1,129
Rateable Value ...	£15,661
Sum represented by Penny Rate. ...	£58

Vital Statistics.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate ...	39	21	18
Illegitimate ...	1	1	-
Totals.	40	22	18

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 10.65

<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate ...	2	1	1
Illegitimate ...	-	-	-
Totals.	2	1	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 47.61

<u>DEATHS.</u>	Total.	Males.	Females.
	46	28	18

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population. Crude rate 12.25  
 Adjusted rate 11.51

Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	Nil.
death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age	...	1 (Female).
Death-rate of Infants per 1,000 live births...		25
Death-rate from measles (all ages)...	...	Nil.
Death-rate from whooping cough (all ages)	...	1
Death-rate from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).		Nil.

The number of deaths were 46. There were 6 deaths due to cancer, 12 due to heart and circulatory causes. No deaths occurred from suicide.

As usual the death-rate from heart and circulatory causes presents the highest figure.

The death-rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population was 14.3; live birth rate per 1,000 population 14.6, and the still birth rate was 0.55.

#### SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.

The general provision of health services is similar to 1939.

#### SECTION C & E. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and Inspection of Food.

Report by G. C. Borman, Cert. R. San. I.,  
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Water Supply. There has been an adequate supply of water from the Council's Waterworks at Weekley, during the year. The main is also connected to the Woodford supply from which a minimum of 20,000 gallons per day is taken. The Kettering Corporation Main is also connected and could be used in an emergency.

A chlorination plant has now been installed at the Weekley Waterworks, and is working satisfactorily.

Periodical analyses of the water have been made and the results have been satisfactory in every case.

No extension of water mains or sewers has been carried out.

Sewage Disposal. The sewage disposal works is badly overloaded, but, unfortunately, the scheme to connect to the Kettering Corporation Works is suspended for the period of the war.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area. Routine and other inspections were made during the year, and all nuisances detected were satisfactorily abated without legal proceedings having to be taken.

Slaughterhouses. As all livestock is now killed at Kettering, no inspection has been made.

Milk Supply. 22 milk samples have been taken during the year. 15 were good, 4 moderate, and 3 bad.

Regular inspections of cowsheds and dairies were carried out.

#### SECTION F. Infectious Diseases.

Infectious diseases were as follows:-

Paratyphoid.....	4
Scarlet Fever.....	6
Diphtheria.....	25
Pneumonia.....	22
Erysipelas.....	1
Measles.....	193
Whooping Cough.....	38



A paratyphoid outbreak took place in the District during the summer. The cause was traced and energetic measures were taken to control it. Three cases were removed to hospital and there were no deaths.

Scarlet Fever - Four patients were removed to hospital; no deaths occurred.

Diphtheria - An outbreak occurred during September and was mainly localized to one school. The school was closed for ten days. Diphtheria antitoxin was given to twenty-three children. All the patients were removed to hospital. There was one death. Two deaths occurred from pneumonia.

### Tuberculosis.

Five cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, three males and two females, were notified during the year. There were three deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, two males and one female. One male pulmonary cases was cured during the year.

The following figures show the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the end of 1940:-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	6	6	12
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.	4	1	5
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			17
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### RECEPTION OF EVACUEES.

In September, 1939, 409 evacuees came to the Urban District, but, at the end of the year, only 241 remained.

In the Autumn of 1940 another influx of evacuees took place and, at the end of the year, the numbers were as follows:-

Mothers.....	102
Children with Mothers..	201
Unaccompanied school..	
children....	195
Teachers, Helpers and	
other adults...	93

Total.	591
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A number of cases of scabies and impetigo have occurred amongst evacuated persons, and where satisfactory treatment in the billet has not been possible, the cases have been removed either to the County Council Institutions at Kettering and Oundle or to the Ministry of Health Hostel at Market Harborough.

There were a number of problems associated with the billeting of unaccompanied children, such as vermin infestation, bed-wetting and behaviour abnormality, and arrangements were made for the removal of particularly difficult cases to one of the County Hostels either at Burton Latimer, Rushden or Northampton.

